



Department of Commerce

FURTHER EXTENSION OF CONTROLS ON TIN AND TIN PRODUCTS NOT CONTEMPLATED: In a brief discussion of controls on tin and tin products, The Department of Commerce's Tenth Quarterly Report Under the Export Control Act of 1949 and the Second Decontrol Act of 1947 stated that it did not appear that further extension on this product would be necessary beyond its present expiration date of June 30, 1950. As of June 30, the only controls over tin will be through the Export Control Act under which export licenses will continue to be required for the shipment of tin and tin products abroad.



Interdepartmental Committee on Trade Agreements

FISHERY PRODUCTS INCLUDED IN TRADE-AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS: Plans for further tariff negotiations on about 2,500 items (including a number of fishery and allied products) were announced simultaneously by the Interdepartmental Committee on Trade Agreements, the Committee for Reciprocity Information, and the United States Tariff Commission. Detailed announcements by these agencies appeared in the Federal Register of April 14, 1950.

This is preliminary to the International Trade Conference which will be held at Torquay, England, on September 28, in which the United States will take part and at which it will negotiate with seventeen countries on possible tariff cuts.

The notice indicated that trade-agreement negotiations are contemplated with the following countries, including in each case areas in respect of which the country has authority to conduct trade agreement negotiations: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Guatemala, Korea, Luxembourg, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Turkey, the Union of South Africa and the United Kingdom. It is proposed to enter into negotiations with these countries for the purpose of negotiating mutually advantageous tariff concessions. Negotiations with Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany, Guatemala, Korea, Peru, and Turkey will also be for the purpose of their accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Concessions to any country at these trade-agreement negotiations will apply to all other countries under the "most favored nation" clause.

The list of articles annexed to the notice contains descriptions of articles imported into the United States which it is proposed should be considered for possible modification of duties and other import restrictions, imposition of addi-

tional import restrictions, or specific continuance of existing customs or excise treatment in the trade-agreement negotiations which are proposed with the countries specified. Included are the following fishery and allied products, and reference is made in the list to the paragraph numbers of the Tariff Act of 1930 or section numbers of the Internal Revenue Code:

Schedule 1--Chemicals, Oils and Paints:

34. Drugs of animal origin (except dried insects, shark oil, and dogfish oil, and except fish-liver oils other than halibut-liver oil).
52. Oils, animal and fish: Seal; all other animal and fish oils, fats and greases, not specially provided for (except shark and dogfish oil and shark-liver and dogfish-liver oil).
56. Other oils and fats (not including hydrogenated or hardened oils and fats), the composition and properties of which have been changed by vulcanizing, oxidizing, chlorinating, nitrating, or any other chemical process, and not specially provided for.
57. Combinations and mixtures of animal, vegetable, or mineral oils or of any of them, with or without other substances, and not specially provided for.

Schedule 7--Agricultural Products and Provisions:

717. (a) Fish, fresh (whether or not packed in ice), whole, or beheaded or eviscerated or both, but not further advanced (except that the fins may be removed): Mackerel
- (b) Fish, fresh or frozen (whether or not packed in ice), filleted, skinned, boned, sliced, or divided into portions, not specially provided for: Cod, haddock, hake, pollock, cusk, and rosefish.
718. (a) Fish, prepared or preserved in any manner, when packed in oil or in oil and other substances: Bonito and yellowtail; and sardines, neither skinned nor boned, valued at over 18 but not over 23 cents per pound, including the weight of the immediate container.
- (b) Fish, prepared or preserved in any manner, when packed in airtight containers weighing with their contents not more than fifteen pounds each (except fish packed in oil or in oil and other substances): Salmon; herring; sardines; and fish cakes, balls, and puddings.

719. Fish, pickled or salted (except fish packed in oil or in oil and other substances and except fish packed in airtight containers weighing with their contents not more than fifteen pounds each):
- (1) Salmon
- (4) Herring, whether or not boned, in

immediate containers weighing with their contents more than fifteen pounds each and containing each not more than 10 pounds of herring, net weight; or in immediate containers (not air-tight) weighing with their contents not more than fifteen pounds each.

720. (a) Fish, smoked or kippered (except fish packed in oil or in oil and other substances and except fish packed in airtight containers weighing with their contents not more than fifteen pounds each):
- (1) Salmon.
- (6) Other fish (not including fish provided for in subdivisions (2), (3), (4), and (5) of paragraph 720 (a), Tariff Act of 1930).
721. (b) Razor clams (Siliqua patula), clam juice, clam chowder, and clam juice in combination with substances other than clams, packed in air-tight containers.
- (c) Fish paste and fish sauce.
- (d) Caviar and other fish roe for food purposes (except sturgeon), if boiled and packed in air-tight containers, whether or not in bouillon or sauce.

Schedule 10--Flax, Hemp, Jute, and Manufactures of 1006. Gill nettings, nets, webs, and seines, and other nets for fishing, wholly or in chief value of flax, hemp, or ramie, and not specially provided for.

Schedule 15--Sundries:

1535. Artificial flies, snelled hooks, leaders or casts, finished or unfinished fishing rods and reels, and parts thereof, finished or unfinished, not specially provided for; fish hooks, artificial baits fly books, and fly boxes, finished or unfinished, not specially provided for.

Free List:

1677. Fish imported to be used for purposes other than human consumption: Aquarium fish (except goldfish).
1722. Seaweeds, and vegetable substances, crude or unmanufactured, not specially provided for (not including moss and except a number of other non-fishery products).
1761. Shellfish, fresh or frozen (whether or not packed in ice), or prepared or preserved in any manner, and not specially provided for (not including shrimps, lobsters, and pastes and sauces, and except

crabs, clams, quahaugs, oysters, prawns, abalone, and scallops).

shark oil, and shark-liver oil, including oil produced from sharks known as dogfish, sod oil, herring oil, menhaden oil, eulachon oil, and fish-liver oils classifiable under paragraph 34 or 1669, Tariff Act of 1930); marine-animal oil; tallow, inedible animal oils, etc.

Articles Provided for in the Internal Revenue Code:

Sec. 2491. (a) Fish oil (except whale oil,

In the case of each article in the list with respect to which the corresponding product of Cuba is subject to preferential treatment, the negotiations referred to will involve the elimination, reduction, or continuation of the preference, perhaps with an adjustment or specification of the rate applicable to the product of Cuba.

No article will be considered in the negotiations unless it is included in this list or unless it is subsequently included in a supplementary public list. No duty or import tax imposed under a paragraph or section of the Tariff Act or Internal Revenue Code other than the paragraph or section listed with respect to such article will be considered for a possible decrease, although an additional or separate duty on an article included in the annexed list which is imposed under a paragraph or section other than that listed may be bound against increase as an assurance that the concession under the listed paragraph or section will not be nullified.

The negotiations will also include consideration of proposals to change the date in Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade from January 1, 1951, to a later date. Article XXVIII now provides that the concessions negotiated at Geneva in 1947 and at Annecy in 1949 on individual products may be modified or withdrawn on or after January 1, 1951, after negotiation and consultation with other contracting parties without the necessity of terminating the entire agreement. If the date in Article XXVIII is changed to a later date, it would mean that the contracting parties would be precluded from the effective date of the amendment until such later date from invoking Article XXVIII to modify or withdraw concessions. The proposed change would affect all products on which the United States might make concessions at the forthcoming tariff negotiations as well as those in Schedule XX made at Geneva, Switzerland, and Annecy, France.

In addition to the governments listed which are seeking accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the Government of the Philippines has also indicated its acceptance of the invitation of the contracting parties to undertake tariff negotiations for the purpose of accession. However, the United States will not undertake tariff negotiations with the Philippines at the forthcoming tariff negotiations in view of section 508 of the Philippine Trade Act of 1946 which provides, in effect, that during the effectiveness of the agreement on trade and related matters between the United States and the Philippines, concluded pursuant to that Act, the President shall not enter into a trade agreement with the Philippines under the Trade Agreements Act. Moreover, if the Philippines should accede to the General Agreement, which has been entered into by the United States pursuant to the Trade Agreements Act, it is intended that the United States would invoke Article XXXV of the General Agreement, by virtue of which the General Agreement would not apply as between the United States and the Philippines.

The Committee for Reciprocity Information announced that all applications for views in regarding to the foregoing proposals, which must indicate the product or

products on which the individuals or groups desire to be heard, were to be submitted to the Committee not later than May 10, 1950, and all information and views in writing were to be submitted not later than May 17, 1950.

Public hearings were to be held before the Committee at which oral statements were to be heard. The first hearing was to be held on May 24, 1950, in the Tariff Commission Buildings, Washington, D. C. Witnesses who make application to be heard were to be advised regarding the time and place of their individual appearances.

Information, with respect to all dutiable commodities, on rates of duty, import, export, and production statistics, and pertinent data concerning competition is contained in the Summaries of Tariff Information prepared by the United States Tariff Commission in 1948. Among other things, the Summaries show the 1945 rates of duty which are the basis for application of the 50 percent limitation on the authority of the President to increase or decrease rates under the Trade Agreements Act. The Summaries also show the rates of duty applicable in 1948, which for most commodities are the rates now in effect. Information as to the few changes in rates of duty since 1948 may be obtained on request from the various offices of the Bureau of Customs throughout the country or to the United States Tariff Commission, Washington 25, D. C.

The Summaries of Tariff Information are available for reference in the offices of the Tariff Commission in Washington, D. C., in the Custom House in New York City, in the Field Offices of the U. S. Department of Commerce located in most of the large cities, in the main libraries of most of the large colleges and universities, and in the principal public libraries in the larger cities.

Separate pages from these Summaries for a particular commodity may be obtained by addressing a request to the United States Tariff Commission, Washington 25, D. C.

A compilation entitled "United States Import Duties (1948)" and "Supplement II" gives up-to-date information concerning existing rates of duty.



Interstate Commerce Commission

RAILWAY EXPRESS' REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN ICE CHARGES DENIED: In connection with the request of the Railway Express Agency for increases in the ice charges for fish and shellfish shipments, the Interstate Commerce Commission has declared the proposals by the Company as unjust and unreasonable. The schedules containing these increases, which had been suspended, were ordered cancelled and the proceeding before the Commission discontinued.

The Express Agency proposed to add to less-carload fresh and frozen fish express shipments (using water ice as a refrigerant and shipped in boxes or other containers) 25 percent more than currently added to the net weight and, accordingly, to the billing weights (See Commercial Fisheries Review, November 1949, p. 69). The report of the Interstate Commerce Commission on this case (Investigation and Suspension Docket No. 5612, "Billing Weights on Iced Fish and Shellfish-Express") was submitted on February 23, 1950, and decided upon and an order released by the Commission on March 22, 1950.

The Commission entered upon a hearing of this case by an order dated November 19, 1948, and it suspended the operation of the proposed schedules up to and including June 21, 1949. Voluntarily the Railway Express Agency postponed the effective date of the suspended schedules until April 22, 1950. However, the present order requires the Company to cancel the schedules on or before May 1, 1950.



Department of State

UNITED STATES-CANADIAN CONVENTION FOR EXTENSION OF PORT PRIVILEGES TO HALIBUT FISHING VESSELS: The Department of State announced signature on March 24 of a convention between the United States and Canada for the extension of port privileges to halibut fishing vessels on the Pacific Coast of the two countries.

The United States Ambassador and the Canadian Minister of Fisheries signed the convention in Ottawa.

Under the terms of this agreement, Canada will grant to United States halibut fishing vessels the privilege of landing catches and obtaining supplies, repairs and equipment in Canadian ports on the Pacific Coast. In return, the United States will grant the same privilege to Canadian halibut fishing vessels in Pacific Coast ports of Alaska and the Continental United States.

This convention puts on a permanent basis an arrangement which has been made year by year in the past.

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UNITED STATES DOES NOT CLAIM SOVEREIGNTY OVER CORONADOS ISLANDS: The Department of State has been asked whether the United States has any claim to the sovereignty of the Coronados Islands which lie off the coast of Mexico. The inquiry arose in connection with action in the courts of California concerning a fishing vessel.

The Department has replied that the United States has never made any objection to Mexico's claim of sovereignty over the islands of Los Coronados. On the contrary, in the span of a hundred years, various agencies of the United States Government have acknowledged on many occasions, either by implications or in official documents, that these islands are a possession of the United Mexican States. The Government of the United States does not now have any reason to change position with respect to the claim by Mexico of sovereignty over the Coronados Islands, according to a March 9 State Department press release.

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PARTICIPATION OF JAPAN IN INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL AGREEMENTS AND CONFERENCES PERMITTED: With a view to facilitating the participation of Japan in technical agreements and conferences, the United States Government on February 21, 1950, issued an interim directive to SCAP authorizing him "to permit Japan to participate with other nations or groups of nations in such international agreements, conventions, and conferences of a technical character as Japan may be invited to enter into, accede to, or attend, and as the Supreme Commander shall consider to be in the interests of the occupation."

Because the question of Japanese participation in technical conferences and agreements is a constantly recurring one and because a majority of the members of the Far Eastern Commission recognize the desirability of Japan's participation in such conferences, the United States issued this directive in accordance with paragraph III, 3, of the "Terms of Reference of the Far Eastern Commission," a February 25 State Department press release states. This paragraph provides that:

"The United States Government may issue interim directives to the Supreme Commander pending action by the Commission whenever urgent matters arise not covered by policies already formulated by the Commission; provided that any directives dealing with fundamental changes in the Japanese constitutional structure or in the regime of control, or dealing with a change in the Japanese Government as a whole will be issued only following consultation and following the attainment of agreement in the Far Eastern Commission."

The text of the interim directive follows:

"1. The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, subject to his discretion and continued control, should permit Japan to participate with other nations or groups of nations in such international agreements, conventions, and conferences of a technical character as Japan may be invited to enter into, accede to, or attend and as the Supreme Commander shall consider to be in the interest of the occupation.

"2. Before leaving Japan, Japanese representatives appointed in accordance with the provisions of this policy decision, should be instructed to refrain from engaging in propaganda or subversive activities of any kind.

"3. The Supreme Commander should direct the Japanese Government to fulfill any obligations which it assumes in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

"4. The Supreme Commander should inform the Far Eastern Commission of any any action taken in accordance with the provisions of this policy."



Eighty-first Congress (Second Session)

MARCH 1950

Listed below are public bills, resolutions, etc., introduced and referred to committees, or passed by the Eighty-First Congress (Second Session) and signed by the President during March 1950, which affect in any way the fisheries and fishing and allied industries. Public bills, resolutions, etc., are mentioned under this section only when introduced and, if passed, when they are signed by the President.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

House of Representatives:

H. R. 7523 (Blatnik) - A bill to reestablish a Civilian Conservation Corps; to provide for the conservation of natural resources and the development of human resources through the employment of youthful citizens in the performance of useful work, including job training and instruction in good work habits; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

- H. R. 7547 (Kilday) - A bill to amend the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended, with respect to motor carriers excepted from certain provisions of part II of such Act; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. ("That section 203 (b) (6) of part II of the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended, is amended to read as follows: '(6) motor vehicles used in carrying property consisting of ordinary livestock, live poultry, and other agricultural commodities (not including the products of slaughter, nor preserved, frozen, or manufactured products), and fish (including shell fish but not including preserved, frozen, processed, or manufactured products), if such motor vehicles are not used in carrying any other property, or passengers, for compensation; or...'"
- H. R. 7553 (Mitchell) - A bill to stabilize income of herring fishermen in Alaska and prices of products of the Alaska herring industry; to the Committee on Banking and Currency.
- H. R. 7624 (Monroney) - A bill to amend the customs laws of the United States, as amended, in order to protect American commerce against discrimination by foreign nations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.
- H. R. 7693 (Bennett) - A bill to transfer the vessel Theodore N. Gill from the United States Maritime Commission to the Fish and Wildlife Service; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.
- H. R. 7786 (Cannon) - A bill making appropriations for the support of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1951, and for other purposes; to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union. (Includes appropriations for the Fish and Wildlife Service).
- H. R. 7797 - An act to provide foreign economic assistance; read twice and ordered to be placed on the calendar. (Includes Title I - Economic Cooperation Act of 1950; Title II - United Nations Palestine Refugee Aid Act of 1950; Title III - Act of International Development (Point IV).
- H. R. 7808 (Stockman) - A bill to authorize the administration of fishing and other activities of the Indians who have been fishing at or in the vicinity of Celilo Falls in the Columbia River, Oregon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Public Lands.
- H. R. 7849 (Kennedy) - A bill to further encourage the distribution of fishery products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.
- H. R. 7887 (Thompson) - A bill granting the consent and approval of Congress to an amendment to the Atlantic States marine fisheries compact, and repealing the limitation on the life of such compact; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.
- H. R. 7914 (Miller) - A bill to amend chapter 61 (relating to lotteries) of title 18, United States Code, to make clear that such chapter does not apply to contests wherein prizes are awarded for the species, size, weight, or quality of fish caught by the contestant; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

